River Corridor

Expectation:

Safely deactivate contaminated facilities, including several near the Columbia River, to reduce risk to workers and the environment while decreasing cost to taxpayers.

324 Building Cleanout:

- **Packaged in grout containers the remnants of the final 17-foot equipment rack inside B Cell. The two-story rack, the last of 12 that were once in the large cell, was removed from the wall and cut into pieces using remote manipulators earlier this year. We completed the packaging effort three weeks ahead of a DOE-imposed deadline.**

- **Completed 12 shipments of grout containers to compliant storage in the 200 Area ahead of schedule. The shipments are part of a 17-container campaign that began in March to support removal of waste and equipment from B Cell by November, an important Tri-Party Agreement milestone.**

A crane lifts a grout container from a special 25-ton cask assembly, and lowers it into a low-level waste trench in the 200 Area. The container is one of 12 shipped so far this year and holds remnants of racks and other equipment from B Cell, the largest and most contaminated of the eight hot cells in the 324 Building.

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327 Building Deactivation:

- Removed two-thirds of the 297 sample cans of radioactive materials from dry storage in the building's sub-floor carousel.
- Shipped out more than 22 cubic meters of bulk waste and packaged another nearly 29 cubic meters so far this fiscal year.
- Moved all remaining fissile pieces from D and E cells to F Cell for consolidation, packaging and eventual shipment to the 200 Area.

Fluor Hanford and COGEMA Engineering collaborated on the design and procurement of this versatile robotic crawler that will be used in cleanup of the 324 Building. Here, engineers demonstrate how the crawler's arm and vacuum system will collect materials from the floor and other hard-to-reach places inside the highly contaminated B Cell.

310 Treated Effluent Disposal Facility (TEDF):

- Processed 11 33-gallon drums of sodium hydroxide, avoiding $31,600 in disposal costs.
- Unloaded eight 55-gallon drums of sulfuric acid into the TEDF sulfuric acid storage tank. Reuse of the acid, which was excess product from the 200-Area Effluent Treatment Facility, eliminates the need to dispose of the product as hazardous waste and avoids more than $100,000 in disposal costs.

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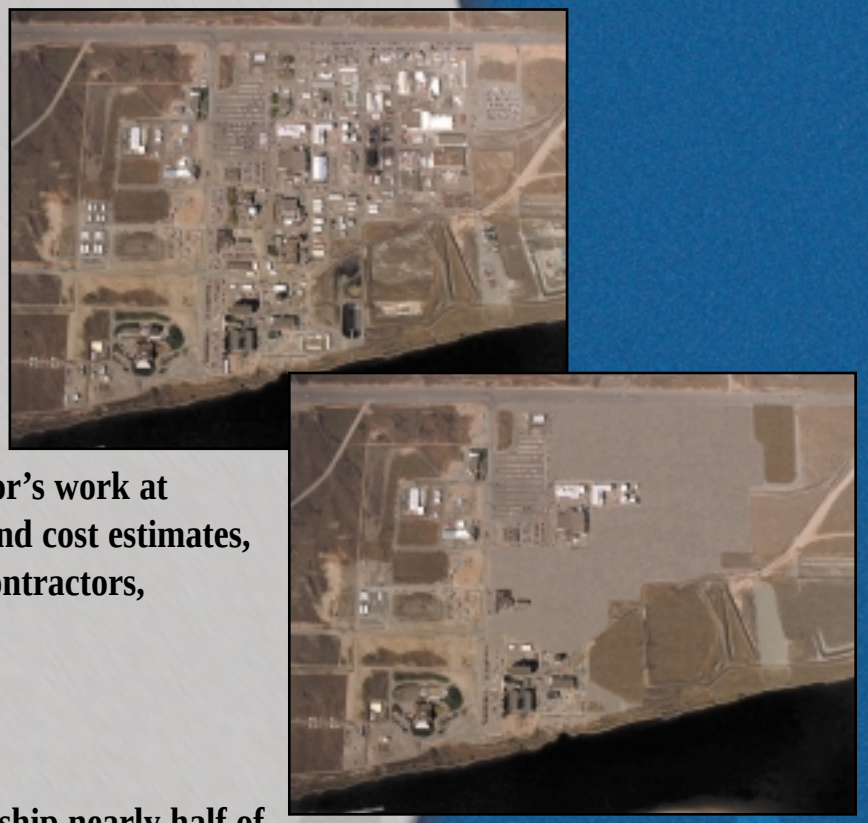
Other Project Achievements:

- Project workers completed 750,000 safe work hours without a lost-time injury.

- Developed a 300-Area Accelerated Closure Project Plan, modeled after successes at Fluor commercial projects and Fluor's work at DOE's Fernald Site. The 300-Area plan, including schedules and cost estimates, was developed in partnership with DOE and other Hanford contractors, including the Pacific Northwest National Laboratory.

What's Next:

- With recently approved funds, preparations are under way to ship nearly half of Hanford's excess uranium to DOE facilities in Portsmouth, Ohio, where it will be safely disposed. The shipments are expected to begin this summer and represent an important element of the 300 Area's cleanup and a key Tri-Party Agreement milestone.



Accelerated cleanup could transform much of the 300 Area, next to the Columbia River, up to 36 years sooner than currently planned. The top photo shows an aerial of the area in the mid-1990s; the bottom photo is the same view altered to show how it might look after the proposed accelerated cleanup. Preliminary schedules and cost estimates have been developed for DOE's consideration.